

## Message Text

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62

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 PER-01 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-02 H-02 SCA-01 VO-03

USIE-00 OPR-02 SY-05 USSS-00 ITF-05 INSE-00 SAM-01

/087 W

----- 009928

O R 021135Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3603

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENTIANE 2983

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O R R E C T E D COPY GARBLED TEXT PARA 4

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, CVIS, PINS, LA, VS

SUBJECT: DRV EMBASSY PRESSURE ON VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES OF  
U.S. MISSION

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE DRV EMBASSY IN VIENTIANE, CLAIMING TO  
BE ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE PRG, HAS MOVED RAPIDLY TO APPLY  
PRESSURE TO THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY HERE, INCLUDING VIET-  
NAMESE NATIONALS EMPLOYED BY THE U.S. MISSION. THIS TELE-  
GRAM SUMMARIZES DEBRIEFING OF FIRST MISSION EMPLOYEE TO BE  
CALLED INTO DRV EMBASSY AND DESCRIBES RELATED ASPECTS OF  
SITUATION. THE EFFECT WILL BE RAPID DEMORALIZATION OF OUR  
VIETNAMESE STAFF; TWO EMPLOYEES HAVE ALREADY ASKED FOR  
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REFUGE IN THE U.S., AND MORE ARE LIKELY TO DO SO. WE

BELIEVE THE USG HAS SIGNIFICANT OBLIGATIONS TO THESE  
EMPLOYEES AND WE NEED DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON AN URGENT  
BASIS. DOCUMENTATION WILL DEFINITELY BE A PROBLEM, SINCE  
WE UNDERSTAND THAILAND IS NOW REFUSING TO ADMIT VIETNAMESE  
NATIONALS SEEKING TO ENTER FROM LAOS. END SUMMARY

1. THE U.S. MISSION TO LAOS HAS AT PRESENT 75 EMPLOYEES  
WHO ARE VIETNAMESE NATIONALS. ALL HOLD GVN PASSPORTS.  
ONLY 5 ARE TECHNICALLY CONSIDERED TCN EMPLOYEES IN THE  
SENSE THAT THEY WERE BROUGHT TO LACGGE\_@  
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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 PER-01 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05

FDRE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENTIANE 2983

8. TO A GREAT EXTENT THE POSITION OF VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES OF THIS MISSION IS ANALOGOUS TO THAT OF LOCAL EMPLOYEES IN VIET-NAM. A NUMBER OF FACTORS COMBINE TO PRESENT THE CLEAR POTENTIAL OF PHYSICAL DANGER TO THESE EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES:

A. THE PRESENCE OF THE DRV EMBASSY AND NVA FORCES IN LAOS.

B. THE SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF PRO-COMMUNIST VIETNAMESE WHO HAVE ALREADY BECOME A STRONG-ARM FORCE FOR THE DRV.

C. THE GROWING INFLUENCE OF THE PATHET LAO IN THE PGNU, WHICH MAKES IT UNLIKELY THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE NORMAL STANDARDS OF PROTECTION FROM INTIMIDATION OR VIOLENCE.

D. THE FACT THAT OUR EMPLOYEES ARE VIEWED BY ALL CONCERNED AS HAVING SUPPORT THE US WAR EFFORT.

E. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THAI IMMIGRATION

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AUTHORITIES ARE REFUSING ENTRANCE TO BEARERS OF GVN PASSPORTS, THUS EFFECTIVELY ISOLATING THEM IN LAOS.

9. ONE OTHER VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEE (FSL) HAS ALREADY ASKED TO BE TAKEN TO THE U.S. OTHERS CLEARLY ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR SAFETY. EMBASSY SO FAR HAS HAD TO BE NON-COMMITTAL IN RESPONSE. WE NOW REQUIRE POLICY GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION. THE QUESTION IS A DIFFICULT ONE, AS THE PGNU CANNOT BE COUNTED ON TO SANCTION ANY "EVACUATION" OF U.S. MISSION EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES. THE UNCERTAINTY SURROUNDING THE VALIDITY OF GVN PASSPORTS AND THE FACT THAT SOME OF THE EMPLOYEES CONCERNED MAY NOW HAVE NO PASSPORT AT ALL ARE FURTHER COMPLICATIONS. EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO CLASSIFY SUCH EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES AS IT DEEMS NECESSARY AS REFUGEES FOR PURPOSE OF IMMIGRATION TO THE U.S. IN THE SAME STATUS AS LOCAL

EMPLOYEES OF THE MISSION TO VIET-NAM. WE ALSO NEED GUIDANCE  
ON QUESTION OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION, ASSUMING THAT GVN  
PASSPORTS MAY NOT BE RECOGNIZED FOR ENTRY INTO THAILAND  
OR EVEN FOR DEPARTURE FROM LAOS AND THAT SOME POTENTIAL  
TRAVELERS MAY BE COMPLETELY WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION.

10. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP, AS PRESSURES ON THE EMPLOYEES  
CONCERNED IS INCREASING HOURLY.  
CHAPMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 25 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** WITHDRAWN <10 Jun 2003 by MorefiRH, INA>; RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <25 JUN 2003 by MorefiRH>  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DRV EMBASSY PRESSURE ON VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES OF U.S. MISSION  
**TAGS:** SREF, CVIS, PINS, LA, VS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006